



# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

321 East Church Street • Martinsville, Virginia • 276-632-2896 • [www.christchurchmvl.org](http://www.christchurchmvl.org)  
*We are a community of faith striving to love God fully and our neighbors as ourselves.*

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The First Sunday after the Epiphany:  
The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
January 12, 2025  
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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*Please silence your electronic devices.  
Music and lyrics of hymns may be found in the blue Hymnal 1982.*

The Opening Voluntary *Aria* John Dixon

Processional Hymn *“When Christ’s appearing was made known”* Hymn 132

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

*The Celebrant says*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Gloria in excelsis Hymnal S 280

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the  
Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

**Reader** A reading from the Prophet Isaiah (43:1-7)

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth-- everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

**Reader** The Word of the Lord  
**People** *Thanks be to God*

**Psalm 29** *Afferte Domino*

- 1 Ascribe to the /LORD, you /gods, \*  
ascribe to the /LORD glory and/ strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory/ due his /Name; \*  
worship the LORD in the /beauty of holi/ness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;  
the God of /glory /thunders; \*  
the LORD is u/pon the mighty /waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a /powerful /voice; \*  
the voice of the LORD /is a voice of /splendor.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the /cedar /trees; \*  
the LORD breaks the/ cedars of Leba/non;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip/ like a /calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon /like a young wild/ ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the LORD /shakes the /wilderness; \*  
the LORD shakes the /wilderness of /Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the /oak trees /writhe \*  
and /strips the forests /bare.
- 9 And in the temple/ of the /LORD \*  
all are /crying, "Glo/ry!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned a/bove the /flood; \*  
the LORD sits enthroned as /King for ever/more.
- 11 The LORD shall give strength /to his /people; \*  
the LORD shall give his people /the blessing of/ peace.



Reader A reading from the Book of Acts (8:14-17)

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord  
People *Thanks be to God*

Sequence Hymn "Christ, when for us you were baptized" Hymn 121

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (3:15-17, 21-22)  
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord  
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon The Rev. John Adams

The Nicene Creed *standing*

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the  
Virgin Mary, and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the

Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand  
of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and  
the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is  
worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and  
apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the  
dead, and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

*Reader* Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*People* *That we all may be one.*

*Reader* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*People* *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

*Reader* We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Bishop Mark, and all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*People* *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

*Reader* We pray for Joe, our President, Donald, our President-elect, and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*People* *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

*Reader* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*People* *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

*Reader* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*People* *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

*Reader* Give to the departed eternal rest.  
*People* *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

*Reader* We praise you for all your saints who have entered into joy;  
*People* *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

*Reader* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others; especially *Sue, Julia, Betty, Nathan, Betsy, Mary Ruth, Nancy, Mark, Morgan, Jennifer, Lucia, Peg, Dennis, Carleigh, and Carolyn.*

*All may offer their prayers and thanksgivings at this time, aloud or in the silence of their hearts, after which the Celebrant offers a concluding collect.*

## Confession of Sin

Kneeling or standing

BCP 360

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant and People*

Most merciful God,  
 we confess that we have sinned against  
 you  
 in thought, word, and deed,  
 by what we have done,  
 and by what we have left undone.  
 We have not loved you with our whole  
 heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as  
 ourselves.  
 We are truly sorry and we humbly  
 repent.  
 For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
 have mercy on us and forgive us;  
 that we may delight in your will,  
 and walk in your ways,  
 to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*



And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

### The Lord's Prayer (People and Celebrant)

Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the  
power, and the glory  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### Breaking of Bread

#### Fraction Anthem

*Christ Our Passover*

Hymnal S 154

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive at the altar rail, kneeling or standing. Gluten-free wafers are available by request. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward and place your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. After receiving the bread, you may choose to consume the bread and take a sip of wine from the chalice or hold onto the bread and intinct (dip) it into the wine, in which case please hold the wafer in front of you so the chalice will know to bring you the intinction cup. You may also decline to receive the wine (as the bread in itself is full communion), in which case if you remain at the altar rail please place your arms across your chest to signal the chalice. Those who cannot or prefer not to come forward may inform an usher, and the Celebrant will come to you.*

#### Communion Chant

*For ye are one in Christ Jesus*

Galatians 3, Psalm 29

#### Communion Music

*"Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness"*

Hymn 339

*Once all have received, the celebrant says* Let us pray.

#### *Celebrant and people*

*Kneeling or standing*

BCP 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*The celebrant blesses the people.*

#### Recessional Hymn

*"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"*

Hymn 616

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

#### The Closing Voluntary

*Deck Thyself, My Soul With Gladness*

Johann Gottfried Walther

*The beauty of the Altar Flowers are  
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of  
and Celebration for the Life of Patty Ann Trent  
by her Family*

*The beauty of the Narthex Flowers are  
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of  
and Celebration for the Life of Patty Ann Trent  
by her Family*

Pray today for the Bishop's Visitation to Good Shepherd, Galax. Pray for the people of Good Shepherd, Galax. For Grace and Peace in the Diocese of Haiti. Our companion diocese, the Diocese of Leeds, and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Bain.

### **2025 Pledges**

To this point, we have received 49 pledges totaling \$213,730 for 2025, compared to 55 totaling \$211,220 for 2024. If you have not yet done so, we ask that you take some time to pray about your giving to Christ Church next year and submit your pledge as soon as possible. Pledge cards are available in the Narthex and from the Church office.

### **Monday Bible Study**

The Monday night Bible study meets from 7:00 to 8:00 in the Parish House. On **January 13**, we will read Luke 17, a miscellany of teachings clustered around the cleansing of ten lepers. All are welcome and encouraged to attend as you can; no preparation ahead of time is necessary.

### **Women's Club Information Meeting**

The Vestry's summer discernment process indicated that a number of women at Christ Church miss the monthly meetings that took place prior to COVID-19. To follow up on those findings, we have scheduled a meeting to determine if there is interest in establishing monthly meetings and to determine what form a newly established women's group might take.

**You are invited to join us in the Parish House on Tuesday, January 14, at 5:30.** Beverages and paper products will be provided. You are encouraged to bring snack items for all to enjoy.

**If you plan to attend, sign up on the church's website under volunteers.** We are looking forward to our evening of fellowship!

### **Linda Isley Service**

The service for Linda Isley will be at Christ Church at 2:00 pm on Friday, January 17, with a reception at Chatmoss.

### **Diocesan Convention**

The Annual Convention of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia is January 24-26 in Roanoke. Please keep Fr. John, Jay Dickens, Rives Coleman, and Baylie Coleman in your prayers as they join clergy, laity, and youth from across this corner of Virginia in taking counsel for the renewal and mission of the Church.

## Loaves & Fishes

Loaves & Fishes (our monthly free dinner, open to all) resumes on **January 29**, with dinner being served from 5:00 to 6:00. Even if you are not helping with cooking, serving, cleaning, or donating fruit or dessert, church members are encouraged to come and sit down for a meal with our neighbors in the community. **Sign up on our website under Volunteers.**

## Grace Network

Our Grace Network Assignments for January - March: **Pork & Beans 15 oz.** For the month of January: **toilet paper, feminine products, deodorant, and hygiene items.** *Grace has been experiencing a large increase in clients needing food, household, and hygiene items.* As a Church family, we have committed to helping Grace Network with stocking their food pantry for those in need. Please remember to pick up our assigned item the next time you visit the grocery store. You can bring your items to the Church office OR put them in the little red wagon in the Narthex.

## Winter Weather Policy

When we experience inclement winter weather on a Sunday morning, there will still be a 10:30 worship service in the church, but Fr. John encourages you to stay home if you feel you cannot arrive in safety, even if you are scheduled to serve. During the week, if the Martinsville Public Schools are closed, the Office will also be closed.

### THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE!

**Celebrant:** The Rev. John Adams

**Reader:** Susan Critz

**Chalicer:** Steve Keyser, Nancy Spilman

**Organist/Choirmaster:** Lynn Gardner

**Chorister/Cantor:** Raul West

**Christ Church Choir:** St. Christopher's Choir

**Ushers:** Hank Long, Pete Scouras

**Camera Operator:** Andy Williams

**Counters:** Natalie Coleman, Bob Bushnell

**Altar Guild:** Team #3 - Page Beeler, Karen Jones, Nancy Spilman, Ellen Maxwell, Ben Beeler

**Nursery Attendant:** Emily Williams

### 2025 Christ Church Vestry

**Year 3:** Betty Budde, Natalie Coleman; Secretary, Pat Russell. Will Zimmer

**Year 2:** Bob Bushnell, Rives Coleman; Senior Warden, LaRue Powers,  
Bob Weatherall, Junior Warden

**Year 1:** Susan Critz, Butch Hamlet; Treasurer, Michael Hodges, Steve Keyser